



TRANSIT TALK DRIVER, RIDERS HAVE THEIR SAY

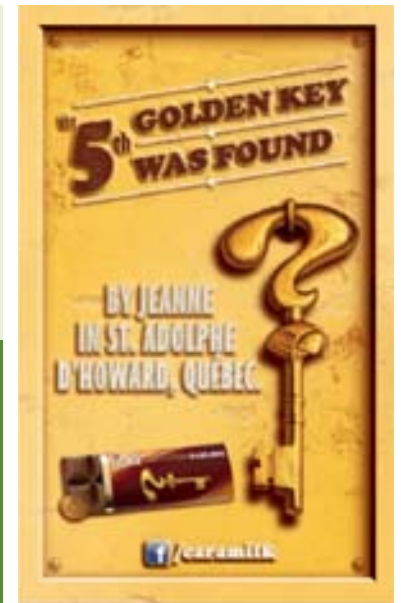
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NO DATE SET FOR CROSBY RETURN SID NOT FULLY OVER CONCUSSION {page 16}



DEPUTY POLICE CHIEF SPEAKS MCNEIL ON HIS SUSPENSION

{page 3}



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Tuesday,
August 16, 2011
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News worth
sharing.

'Still work to be done': Ramia

► Federal commitment a good step, but no deal yet on convention centre: Developer ► Construction now set to begin in 2012, pushing opening to 2016 ► Province, HRM each set to contribute \$56 million toward new centre



ALEX
BOUTILIER
@METRONEWS.CA

After offering prospective Nova Centre tenants a Plan B, developer Joe Ramia now has to convince them to come back on board with his preferred project.

Ramia's Nova Centre moved one step closer to reality yesterday when Defence Minister Peter MacKay committed \$51.4 million to the proposed convention centre project for downtown Halifax.

The \$163.4-million convention centre is one aspect of the proposed facility on Argyle Street, which includes a financial centre, a hotel, and office and retail space.

But after a second deadline for a cost-sharing deal between the three levels of government lapsed in April, the Nova Centre's future was uncertain.

Ramia approached his prospective tenants with a second option — a smaller group of buildings with no convention centre.

Ramia said the response was positive.

"This is positive news. But is it a done deal? No."

JOE RAMIA, DEVELOPER

"Now we're going to go back and say, 'Look, you liked (the Nova Centre) project before, can you deal with (a later occupancy date)?' Ramia told Metro yesterday.

"One email came (Monday) for a major tenancy. They said they've heard the news and they suggested they would like to set up a meeting."

While Ramia welcomed the federal commitment yesterday, he noted there is no deal as of yet between the government and his company, Rank Inc.

"This is the next step in the process, and there's still work to be done," he said.

"I have to No. 1, make sure the tenants are able to live with the extended date, and No. 2, then finalize the deal.

"Most of the big parts are done, but there are still things that have to be finalized."

More coverage {page 2}



► Premier Darrell Dexter, Defence Minister Peter MacKay and Mayor Peter Kelly have a laugh after MacKay announced federal funding for the proposed Halifax convention centre yesterday at the Lord Nelson Hotel.



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Stock markets have been a wild ride recently, but that's no reason to run from them. Allan Small has more at metronews.ca/investing.

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Centre touted as an 'economic catalyst'

► Packed house for yesterday morning's announcement, including many politicians ► Save the View vows to continue convention centre opposition

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO



► Andrew Bateman holds up a sign as he poses for a photo inside the Khyber Building yesterday. Bateman took photographs for an exhibition called Culture Not Conventions, where subjects are pictured with a sign detailing what they would do with the government funds earmarked for the convention centre.



ALEX BOUTILIER
@METRONEWS.CA

It was all smiles and handshakes at the Lord Nelson Hotel yesterday morning. There, Defence Minister Peter MacKay committed \$51.4 million in federal funding for the proposed convention centre project. "Simply put, a new Nova Scotia convention centre will serve as an economic catalyst for Nova Scotia, and promote the region as a premier destination of choice," MacKay

told the crowd at the Halifax Chamber of Commerce.

MacKay was joined by Premier Darrell Dexter, Mayor Peter Kelly, and a slew of business people and government employees. He was given a standing ovation.

"This is, as I've said, a \$500-million project that has far-reaching benefits to this province," Dexter told reporters. "Not just the construction jobs themselves, but literally the thousands upon thousands of jobs that will be

\$163.4M
The total public price tag for the convention centre project with yesterday's federal commitment.

created right across the province as we take advantage of the economic spinoffs, the tourism spinoffs." But outside of the conference room, others were less confident the project can live up to the spin.

An ad hoc group of activists unveiled their Culture Not Conventions

exhibit at the Khyber Arts Society. The exhibit, which runs all week, asked people what they would do with the money earmarked for the convention centre.

Their responses — some flippant, some serious — are meant to identify multiple possibilities for revitalizing the downtown core, according to organizers.

The Save the View Coalition, which has opposed the development from the beginning, also pledged to continue its resistance.

Higher cost did not hinder feds' funding commitment

ALEX BOUTILIER
@METRONEWS.CA

An increased price tag didn't dissuade the federal government from kicking in funding for the convention centre project.

Defence Minister Peter MacKay revealed yesterday the feds' contribution of \$51.4 million is \$4.4 million more than what the province initially asked for eight months ago.

That puts the total contribution from all three levels of government at \$163.4 million.

MacKay said he first learned of the higher price tag when he met with Premier Darrell Dexter in Pictou County two weeks ago.

"We then went back to (Infrastructure Minister Denis Lebel) and said this is and remains the province's priority," MacKay said.

Dexter deflected questions on the higher price yesterday, but remained adamant the provincial and municipal share of the cost — about \$56 million each — hasn't changed.

"You keep talking about the price tag increasing. But what we're told is that the costs of this are going to be in the range where they were when (we) originally proposed the project," he said.

Dexter admitted the original request for the federal government was \$47 million, but said that figure represented the basis of the negotiations.

Announcement garners mixed reaction

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO



► Scott Ferguson

Scott Ferguson
PRESIDENT AND CEO

OF TRADE CENTRE LIMITED

"There's still lots of work to do, by a lot of people, but we're still positive and optimistic, obviously, with the work that we've done over the last several years and the work that's ahead of us."

Philip Pacey

SAVE THE VIEW COALITION

"We've been told for a period of months that the federal government was doing due diligence on this project, and certainly from today's announcement, it doesn't appear that due diligence was done."

Kevin Lacey

ATLANTIC DIRECTOR OF CANADIAN TAXPAYERS FEDERATION

"The only winners are a developer and a few government bureaucrats, and the average taxpayer will foot the rest of the bill."

Valerie Payn

PRESIDENT OF HALIFAX CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

"Now that the convention centre development has been formally supported by the City of Halifax, the province and the federal government, we look forward to seeing the next steps as the development unfolds."

Homicide tally rising: HRP

This year is rife with murders: 13 so far and there are four months to go.

"We've seen a significant increase in the number of homicides this year, which has really had an impact on our overall statistics when it comes to violent crimes," said Const. Brian Palmeter with Halifax Regional Police.

The weekend slaying in Montague Gold Mines pushed the homicide rate to 13, the highest it's been in at least six years.

Most of these homicides involve people known to each another in the "criminal underworld," Palmeter said. One obvious exception was the case of the 92-year-old woman who died after being pushed down the stairs by another dementia patient in a nursing home in February.

Police note that disputes among drug rivals have escalated over the past few years, with many

By the numbers

The number of homicides by year since Halifax Regional Police and RCMP integrated major crime unit was created:

- ▶ 2011: 13
- ▶ 2010: 12
- ▶ 2009: 12
- ▶ 2008: 7
- ▶ 2007: 7
- ▶ 2006: 5
- ▶ 2005: 12

more involving guns.

Of the 13 murders this year, five have been solved and Palmeter said police expect to lay charges in several other cases soon.

"We view the numbers as serious given the fact that one homicide is too many. That said, it's difficult to control the actions of individuals when they make the decision to take somebody's life," Palmeter said. ● JENNIFER TAPLIN

13TH HOMICIDE

Couple sought in murder probe

Police are seeking two people for questioning in the murder of Paul Livingstone, RCMP said yesterday.

Livingstone, 58, was found dead of a gunshot wound Saturday in his

house on Montague Road, police said.

Investigators said yesterday they want to speak to a man and woman who were at the house on Friday morning.

Both are described as Caucasian and in their late 50s or early 60s. The woman is described as five foot four, with brown curly hair greying on the sides. The man is five foot 10, clean shaven and may have been wearing glasses. They were driving a beige or brown vehicle.

● JENNIFER TAPLIN

Deputy police chief eager to move on

▶ 'There are more important matters,' says Chris McNeil ▶ He insists rumours about his five-month suspension are flat-out 'fantasy'



JENNIFER TAPLIN
@METRONEWS.CA

In his first full week back at work, Chris McNeil, deputy chief of the Halifax Regional Police, talked to the media to clear the air, and his reputation.

"It's important to me to indicate I am back to work and to put this matter behind me," he said yesterday.

McNeil was suspended five months ago. Media reports quoted sources saying that McNeil, a member of the force for more than 25 years, was investigated for allegedly lying under oath in two investigations involving his brother, Sgt. Anthony McNeil, who was involved with a private company that conducted lie-detector tests for HRM.

But that isn't what happened, Chris McNeil said yesterday.

Instead, he said he testified at a 2010 internal disciplinary hearing that he wasn't aware of his brother's activities outside the police force.

After the hearing, an allegation circulated that McNeil had mentioned in a casual conversation in 2007 that he was aware of his brother's actions.

He was suspended pending an investigation



▶ Chris McNeil, deputy chief of the Halifax Regional Police, talks to Metro at HRP headquarters yesterday.

"Allegations are made ... those things are what they are. If you take everything personally in a paramilitary organization, from the lowest rank to the high, you won't last very long."

CHRIS MCNEIL, DEPUTY POLICE CHIEF

by senior officers of the Ontario Provincial Police. Their report clearing him of wrongdoing came in last Wednesday and he was reinstated that evening.

Contrary to previous media reports, Anthony McNeil was not the subject of the disciplinary

hearing, nor was he suspended, the deputy chief said.

"Unfortunately, he just got caught up in this matter because he was my brother and others tried to use that to take advantage," he said, adding that he was the only one suspended in the matter.

Family matters

Another of Chris McNeil's 16 siblings is Stephen McNeil, the Nova Scotia Liberal leader. When asked if he faces closer scrutiny because of his brother, Chris deflected the question, saying his family has been a source of support through his suspension. "I accept that as the deputy chief of police, (my rank) played a role in how the matter was dealt for me," he said.

● JENNIFER TAPLIN

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Sign. Of great things to come



► Andy Fewer from New Century Signs installs a new sign on Sackville Street yesterday. The Downtown Halifax Business Commission had four new signs installed — the other three are on Rainnie Drive, Cogswell Interchange and the Stayner's Wharf building by the ferry terminal.

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

There's a place called Downtown

Blue bag program rolling out soon

► Plastic caps from returnable bottles still go in garbage ► HRM getting up to speed with many other municipalities in Nova Scotia



JENNIFER TAPLIN
@METRONEWS.CA

Get your plastics ready: It's almost time to chuck them all into blue bags.

Starting Sept. 1, all plastics — save Styrofoam — will be recyclable.

"These would include your yogurt containers, ice cream and margarine tubs, as well as all plastic bags, bottles and detergent containers," said Michaelyn Thompson, HRM spokes-

woman.

Currently, only Class 1 and 2 plastics are recyclable.

In May, Halifax regional council approved a motion to spend an extra \$59,000 a year to recycle all plastics, but it took some time to negotiate a contract with Miller Waste Systems.

Before it was approved, Coun. Reg Rankin expressed concern about lost revenue because businesses don't get charged tipping fees for recycling.

"They all go in except for Styrofoam."

MICHAELYN THOMPSON, HRM SPOKESWOMAN, ON WHAT PLASTICS CAN BE RECYCLED STARTING SEPT. 1

He said in May that it would cost HRM an estimated \$73,000 rather than \$59,000 to recycle all plastics.

But it could be another incentive for businesses to recycle all their plastics if they don't have to pay the

tipping fees, Thompson said.

"The markets weren't there before," she said, explaining why all plastics weren't recycled before now.

"Now we have sustainable markets and the upgrades to the infrastructure have been implemented. These changes are in line with the long-term goals set out to achieve greater diversion. It was just the next logical step."

Firm chosen for school board review

Deloitte Inc. will conduct a performance review of the South Shore Regional School Board after some of its members were accused of trying to avoid a public discussion on possible school closures.

The Nova Scotia government appointed the firm

this month following allegations that some board members tried to derail an open discussion on the future of 12 schools before a March 30 meeting.

Education Minister Ramona Jennex said the accusations raised questions about the board's ability to

work effectively and follow sound decision-making practices.

The review will address whether the board adhered to all provincial legislation, policies and regulations, as well as the board's bylaws and policies. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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The review will begin Aug. 22 and is expected to take about 10 weeks. Education Minister Ramona Jennex is expected to receive Deloitte's report on Oct. 24.

Nicholson firm on sentencing

ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS



► Rob Nicholson

Canada's judges will get no leeway on mandatory minimum sentences as Ottawa proceeds with its anti-crime agenda this fall, Justice Minister Rob Nicholson says.

The Canadian Bar Association passed a resolution during its annual conference in Halifax that judges should have more discretion in cases where there could be an injustice by use of a mandatory minimum sentence.

But Nicholson said yesterday the government is "comfortable" with current sentencing guidelines.

"There are a number of mandatory minimum sentences ... and I would suggest to you that the ones that we have introduced are reasonable and appropriate," Nicholson said.

However, Dan MacRury,

a Nova Scotia Crown lawyer, said without more options judges are forced to jail the mentally ill and others who may be better treated in community-based health settings.

"Too many people who suffer mental illness in this country are being treated by the criminal justice system as opposed to the mental-health system," MacRury said. "It's a concern that we have that certainly has to be addressed."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

HOME PLATE

A licence to honour Acadians

Nova Scotia will offer a French-language licence plate to honour the province's Acadian heritage. John MacDonnell, the Service Nova Scotia minister, says his department received input from more than 1,500

people on the plate design, which features the Acadian flag.

The new licence plate is expected to be available in January. Standard registration costs will apply, in addition to a \$50 fee, which will be collected initially and on registration renewals.

The province says the \$50 fee will go into a fund to support the long-term development of the Acadian and francophone community.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Another delay in porn case

For the 15th time, the case against a man in Westville, Pictou Co., facing charges of possessing child pornography has been adjourned. The defence has requested multiple delays in the case of John Aiden Flynn, 27, as he attempts to mount a Charter defence that jail time would be a cruel and unusual punishment due to a health problem. Flynn's lawyer was ill yesterday and couldn't attend court, so Judge John Embree adjourned the case.

NEW GLASGOW NEWS

Charges laid in gun discharge

A 19-year-old man has been released on his own recognizance after being arrested for alleged firearms offences over the weekend.

Springhill police responded to a call about a residence on Black River Road early Sunday after receiving a complaint of a shot being fired.

After a police investigation, the man was arrested and charged with discharging a firearm, careless use of a firearm and pointing a weapon.

AMHERST DAILY NEWS



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..... **TRANSIT IN THE CITY**

Driver, riders chime in

Ever show up late to work because your train broke down? Or forked over a small fortune to ride a cab home because you missed the last bus? It looks like you're not alone. From tardy service to illegible timetables, Metro readers from coast to coast shared their beefs — and praises — with transit in their city. Here's what you had to say ...

Longtime operator has his say on bus woes

RACHEL WARD
HALIFAX@METRONEWS.CA

Wayne Slawter has mostly good days at work, but the 13-year veteran bus operator says a negative passenger experience can turn his day upside-down. "You have some days where, in all reality, the public is just not very nice to you, and sometimes, you might get a little down from it," he said a day before his shift.

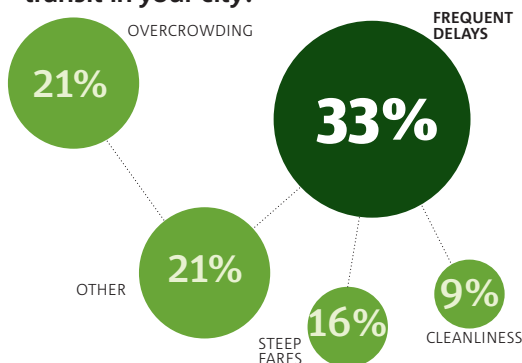
Drivers can be inconsiderate too, he said, but meeting Halifax's positive people helps outweigh other, worse experiences. "One person can get on

Coming up next

Grab a copy of Metro tomorrow for the final instalment of our three-part transit series. We'll look at what readers from coast to coast would do if they could start from scratch and build their own transit system, as well as the role of smart-phones in making transit more predictable and user-friendly.

after that, say please and thank you and have a good day, and it erases all that negativity that just happened to you."

What's your biggest complaint about transit in your city?



► A bus in Halifax.

Your take ...



RATE YOUR SYSTEM

Check out our online poll and rate your city's transit customer service system. Visit metronews.ca. Poll results will be printed in tomorrow's edition.

BUILD YOUR IDEAL SYSTEM

If you had the power to change your city's transit system, what would you do? Create 24-hour service? Put debit machines on buses? Email us at halifaxletters@metronews.ca or send us a message on Twitter @metrohalifax. The best answers will be printed in tomorrow's edition. ● METRO

On Twitter

What do you love/hate about transit in Halifax?

@Catherine Sanders

I hate how transit stops around 12am. We have a vibrant night life and I think later transit would discourage drunk driving.

@mikegniewek

Buses should be tracked by GPS and linked to mobile phones. You'll know exactly where your bus is, more accurate than GoTime.

@halirob

I love the MetroX. I take it everyday, and made my life much better, i'm not stuck driving myself in traffic.

@Michelle Olsen

#60 route is very convoluted, if you're trying to get anywhere. 10 mins early/late a lot. Would love a ferry near E.Passage!

@jennie538

I hate that it takes 1hr or sometimes 2 to go into Halifax from sackville on weekends...

@Adam R. Bowser

Would it kill the drivers to smile?

@Michelle Poirier

I love the routes to/from the universities!! And the friendly helpful drivers.... hate the not-so-friendly drivers....

@mel

in halifax buses miss connections by < 3 minute windows. u can see the bus u need drive by everyday. transit planners need common sense.

@Matthew Burke

I hate how the buses in the suburbs frequently arrive before their scheduled arrival times by 5 to 7 minutes.

Violent end to a notorious life

► Jonathan Bacon shooting in B.C. illustrates vicious cycle of drug trade ► Expert doubts shooters will be caught



MATT KIELTYKA
@METRONEWS.CA
METRO CANADA IN VANCOUVER

With the brazen daytime murder of Jonathan Bacon, British Columbians got a vivid and disturbing glimpse of how the crime world operations.

Kelowna RCMP confirmed yesterday the man killed in a targeted hit outside a hotel Sunday was the alleged Red Scorpion gang member, the oldest of three siblings all believed to be players in B.C.'s Lower Mainland criminal scene.

Three other people in a car with Bacon, 30, were injured: A male Hells Angels member now in critical condition and two women expected to recover.

One other victim fled

the scene after the shooting and has yet to be located.

Rob Gordon, the head of criminology at Simon Fraser University, said the high-profile incident should come as no surprise.

"(Bacon) has created a lot of enemies and this is how gang members settle disputes. They don't use lawyers or a courtroom, they do it on the street," Gordon said.

Mounties are trying to hunt down the shooters — clad in all black clothing and masks — but Gordon doesn't believe the triggermen will be found.

"They were probably contracted and have gone back across the (U.S.) border. I don't think they'll be identified," he said. "The focus now will be on who is behind the whole thing."



► Police tape seals off a downtown Kelowna, B.C., street corner at the scene of a multiple shooting on Sunday.

G8 legacy fund designed to avoid oversight: NDP

A \$50-million legacy fund for last year's G8 summit was run out of the local constituency office of federal minister Tony Clement, documents show — a process that allowed the Harper government to avoid scrutiny by the auditor general.

The NDP discovered the paper trail by doing an end run around the federal government and using Ontario freedom of information laws to get municipal records.

The hundreds of pages of documents

Clement's MP office in Parry Sound, Ont., soliciting legacy project submissions more than 18 months before the June 2010 summit in Huntsville, Ont.

And despite documentary evidence that federal civil servants sat in on many of the project meetings, no records were available to the auditor general when Sheila Fraser looked into the G8 spending late last year.

When Fraser's long-delayed report was finally tabled well after the May 2 election that returned the



► New Democratic ethics critic Charlie Angus takes part in a press conference in Ottawa on Monday.

Conservatives with a majority, interim auditor John Wiersema had called the absence of documents "very unusual and troubling."

"There is no paper trail behind the selection of the 32 (funded) projects. I personally in my career in auditing have not encountered a situation like that."

NDP ethics critic Charlie Angus said the documents make clear that "many of the processes were set up deliberately beyond the hands of the auditor general." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Problematic

► The NDP research is just the latest blow to a legacy fund that has been found to be fraught with problems.

► Critics howled when they discovered the G8 spending included funding for public toilets, gazebos and other local beautification projects hours away from the summit site in Tony Clement's sprawling Ontario riding.

Mayor rips Tories in asbestos dispute

The mayor of Sarnia has written a letter to the Conservative Party of Canada, accusing it of "shameful" behaviour.

He's reacting to news that the Conservative party is involved in a dispute with the widow of an

asbestos victim.

The woman, Michaela Keyserlingk, was sent a threatening email from a top Tory official who warned her to stop using the party's trademarked logo in her anti-asbestos ad campaign. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Dad to stay in custody after attack

A man charged with attempted murder after allegedly slashing his 11-month-old son will remain in custody while a court determines if he needs a psychiatric assessment.

The 32-year-old man, who cannot be named to protect the identity of the child, was charged after police responded to a 911 call at a home in southeast Calgary early Saturday.

Police have said officers found an "angry and agitated" man and a baby inside the home. The child had been slashed several times on the neck and the abdomen with a kitchen knife. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Forces returning to royal roots: Reports

Two divisions of Canada's armed forces are being rechristened with the names they held for the better part of the first half of the 20th century, media reports said yesterday.

The Department of National Defence refused to

discuss reports that the air and maritime divisions will be known as the Royal Canadian Navy and the Royal Canadian Air Force.

Defence Minister Peter MacKay is slated to make an announcement in Halifax today. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

ADULTHOOD: ARE WE THERE YET?

SHE SAYS ...

JESSICA NAPIER
METRO



Tomorrow is my 26th birthday. I am officially entering the early stages of my late 20s and I'm not having a panic attack about it ... surprisingly. I remember when 26 seemed impossibly old, the way 35 seems to me right now I guess, but now I've really started getting comfortable in my quarter-life status.

The days of looking forward to age-specific birthdays as they relate to laws — driving, voting, gambling, drinking — are long gone as all of the milestones start to blend together. When people ask, "How old are you?" I often answer incorrectly, not because I'm embarrassed but because I really cannot remember — another sign of just how much I've settled into being a "20-something" rather than a specific number.

When I look in the mirror I don't feel old and yet, when I revisit photo albums from a mere three or four years ago, I am

flabbergasted at just how young I looked. Even if I could kid myself into thinking I was still a youthful 22-year-old, there's always someone there to remind me that I most certainly am not.

Last weekend I was at a department store buying overpriced face wash (I grew out of my Neutrogena years a long time ago) when the saleswoman at the cosmetic counter inquired about my anti-aging skin-care regime.

"Purely preventative, of course," she said, eyeing my apparently not-so-smooth complexion. I spent that afternoon surveying the landscape of my face: A little sun damage but no discernable wrinkles to date — although maybe I should

give up frowning just in case.

But it's not just the physical changes that have me feeling like I'm getting on in years.

All of my peers in the 25-to-30 age bracket seem to make a habit of complaining about just how ancient we've gotten. We whine sardonically about being "too old" for stuff that we still do on a regular basis. We're too old to host keg parties, too old to live in a basement apartment, too old to wear five-inch heels, too old to be waking up in a stranger's bed, too old to go back to school and so on.

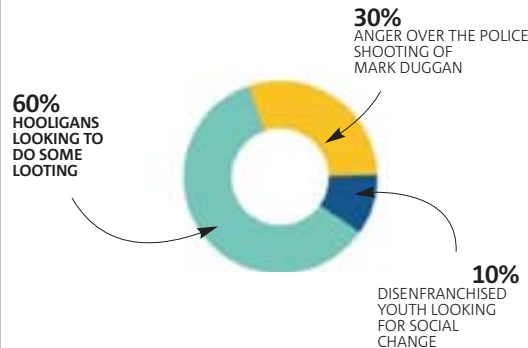
And herein lays the irony of mid-20s limbo: Old enough to know better but immature enough to do it anyway. We're almost grownups, but we're not quite there yet.

Read more of Jessica Napier's columns at metronews.ca/shesays



Register at
metropolitanpanel.ca
and take the quick poll

What is really behind the London riots?



Worth mentioning

MAD COWS. A University of Alberta scientist has figured out a way to transform cattle parts into plastic to offer a potentially profitable alternative to the disposal of all those bits that the mad cow crisis turned into waste.

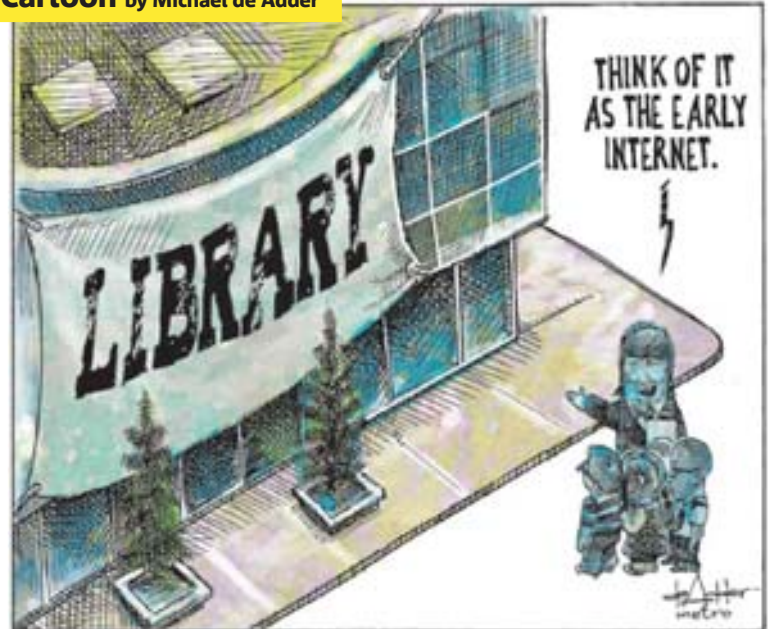
Canada's cattle industry was devastated in 2003 when mad cow disease was discovered on an Alberta farm. In addition to trade disruptions that continue to plague ranchers, cattle brains and spinal cords, known as specified risk materials, could no longer be used for fear of possible infection and were rendered worthless.

What producers or meat processors once sold for up to \$100 a tonne now costs them \$30 a tonne in disposal costs.

Biochemical engineer David Bressler and his team found they could use highly pressurized water to break down proteins in the materials into smaller bits that could be bound together with a second chemical, much like the rungs joining two sides of a ladder.

The process creates a brownish, opaque, odourless powder that can be cast into any shape. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Cartoon by Michael de Adder



WEIRD NEWS

Mayor sends ex-wife a rock-solid gift

A Quebec mayor could face criminal charges after he delivered an unwelcome birthday present to his ex-wife: A 20-tonne boulder, topped with a pink ribbon, dumped on her front lawn.

Dany Lariviere, mayor of St-Theodore-d'Acton, delivered the not-so-happy birthday gift over the weekend to Isabelle Prevost — from whom he divorced last year after a

decade of marriage.

The giant stone was spray-painted with the message, "Happy birthday, Isa."

Lariviere owns an excavation company. He said he used one of his own front-end loaders to transport the rock.

He jokingly compared it to a giant diamond ring. He said his ex-wife always wanted one, and he described his "present" in one newspaper interview as 18-to-24 "carat-tonnes."

"I brought what we call a big rock to my ex-wife," Lariviere later added in an interview with The Canadian Press.

"I took a rock from one of my quarries and I brought it to her place with a little message and a nice ribbon, just like a real gift."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Local tweets



@StillWaving:
On the way to
Halifax I had 1

tiny bus seat, and on the train back 2 comfy big seats! And I beat my high score of doodle-jump! #goodday

@StephenAvivi: Waiting, mouth watering for my big lobster from The Waterfront Warehouse in Halifax. #yhzfood

@Charleswiggand: Showed up to the law courts of Halifax with a blue mouth courtesy of one jolly ranch-

er. #likeaboss

@orenmazor: Halifax Airport is the first I've seen with cell phone and laptop charging stations.

@FreshGoodsInc: Is the minister of defence making infrastructure announcements in #Halifax so he takes less heat when we don't get the shipbuilding contract?

@deanboudreau: Just chill in at Starbucks with my coffee and b'fast sammich. New book from Bookmark and a reasonably nice day. Ah #Halifax. I <3 you!

Tax the rich: Buffett

► Stop coddling us, billionaire says

Billionaire investor Warren Buffett is calling on the so-called "mega-rich" to pay more in taxes.

Buffett said yesterday in a New York Times opinion piece that he would immediately raise rates on

households with taxable income of more than \$1 million US, and he would add an additional increase for those making \$10 million US or more. He also recommends that the 12 members of Congress



► Warren Buffett

charged with devising a deficit-cutting plan leave rates for 99.7 per cent of taxpayers unchanged.

"My friends and I have been coddled long enough

"People invest to make money, and potential taxes have never scared them off."

WARREN BUFFETT, BILLIONAIRE INVESTOR

by a billionaire-friendly Congress," Buffett wrote. "It's time for our government to get serious about shared sacrifice."

Buffett noted that the mega-rich pay income taxes at a rate of 15 per cent on most investment income but practically nothing in payroll taxes. The middle class, meanwhile, typically falls into the 15 per cent and 25 per cent income tax brackets and is

hit with heavy payroll taxes. He said Washington legislators "feel compelled to protect us, much as if we were spotted owls or some other endangered species."

Buffett said he knows many of the mega-rich well, and most wouldn't mind paying more in taxes.

He also said he has yet to see anyone shy away from investments because of tax rates on potential gains. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Market moment

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2
scene

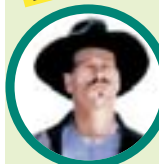
Feature film faceoff

► As two Snow White films get ready for release next year, we look back at the box office revenue of other similar projects that were released within months of each other

Movie 'A'

Battle at the OK Corral

Tombstone (Dec. 25, 1993)
Gunslinger and law enforcer Wyatt Earp moves to Tombstone and gets in a gunfight at the O.K. Corral with the outlaw Cowboys.
Stars: Kurt Russell and Val Kilmer.



Movie 'B'

Wyatt Earp (June 24, 1994)

Wyatt Earp becomes a broken-hearted widower and then moves to Tombstone, where as a gunslinger and law enforcer he shoots up the outlaw Cowboys.
Stars: Kevin Costner, Dennis Quaid and Gene Hackman.



The verdict

First shot wins
Tombstone sold \$57 million at the U.S. box office. Wyatt Earp grossed less than half of that, \$25 million, about six months later.



Cellphone drama



Paris Hilton has reportedly lost two mobile devices on a flight to the Philippines for a visit to promote a hotel resort. In 2005, hackers gained access to Hilton's Sidekick cellphone and famously splashed the private mobile numbers of her celebrity friends online.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Box set about Presley's breakout year of 1956 to be unveiled during Elvis Week in Memphis

Fighting in Europe

Rob Roy (April 7, 1995)
The leader of a Scottish clan battles with feudal landowners in the 18th century.
Stars: Liam Neeson and Jessica Lange



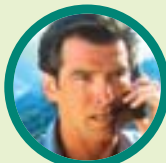
Braveheart (May 24, 1995)
A Scottish rebel leads an uprising against English oppressors in the 13th century.
Stars: Mel Gibson



Courage prevails
Rob Roy sold \$59 million worldwide. Braveheart came out less than two months later yet grossed much more, \$204 million.

Eruption of the Volcanoes

Dante's Peak (Feb. 7, 1997)
A dormant volcano in Washington state erupts, endangering a nearby town.
Stars: Pierce Brosnan and Linda Hamilton.



Volcano (April 25, 1997)
A dormant volcano under Los Angeles erupts and rains lava bombs on the city.
Stars: Tommy Lee Jones, Anne Heche and Don Cheadle



Dante delivers
Dante's Peak grossed \$169 million worldwide, while Volcano grossed \$120 million about three months later.

Catastrophic clash

Deep Impact (May 8, 1998)
A comet is on its way to destroy Earth, and 800,000 people are randomly selected to keep the human race alive.
Stars: Robert Duvall, Tea Leoni and Morgan Freeman



Armageddon (July 1, 1998)
An asteroid is on its way to destroy Earth and a team of offshore drillers is sent to plant a nuclear bomb that will knock it off course.
Stars: Bruce Willis, Ben Affleck and Liv Tyler



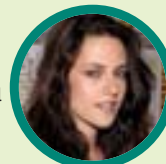
Low impact
Deep Impact sold \$349 million worldwide and Armageddon grossed \$555 million despite coming out just two months apart.

Tale of a princess

Untitled Snow White Project (March 16, 2012)
An exiled princess enlists seven dwarves to win back her birthright from an evil queen in an adventure comedy.
Stars: Julia Roberts and Armie Hammer



Snow White and the Huntsman (June 1, 2012)
An exiled princess trains in the art of war with a huntsman dispatched to kill her and tries to overthrow an evil queen in an epic adventure.
Stars: Kristen Stewart, Chris Hemsworth and Charlize Theron



Mirror, mirror
Stay tuned to see which princess finds favour with audiences.

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Sturgess loves home

▶ Actor relished in the familiar while Filming *One Day*

HANDOUT



▶ Anne Hathaway and Jim Sturgess star in *One Day*.

STEVE GOW
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

For British actor Jim Sturgess, filming the romantic drama *One Day* was like coming home again.

"It was kind of cool," said the *Across the Universe* star recently in New York.

"I've done one other film in London but it was sort of nice to shoot on streets that I know and recognize and walk down in my everyday life."

Set in England, Edinburgh and Paris, *One Day* is based on the international bestselling book by David Nicholls and features Sturgess and Anne Hath-

away as two English chums whose love blossoms as they reunite on an anniversary date over 20 years.

"I never made a film where the book is so much of a help," insisted Sturgess, who contributes the involvement of Nicholls to the filming's ease.

"To make an adaptation (and) have the writer who wrote the book write the screenplay for the film; to have him around on set, to dive into the book and just read more thoroughly about this scene that you're in at that particular time was a massive help."

Published in more than 30 countries, *One Day* will undoubtedly have a dedi-

cated following when the film hits theatres this Friday.

For Sturgess, that also means there will be a lot of scrutinizing eyes watching his performance measure up to the character in the novel. But he is likely hoping fans' opinions are slightly less critical than his own.

"A lot of people read books and think of actors to help get an image of the character but I don't really do that. I think of types of people so I had a type of person in my head and then suddenly I had to put my face in there," laughed Sturgess. "(It was like) what are you casting me for? This is all wrong."

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Jane Eyre

Genre: Drama

Director: Cary Fukunaga

Stars: Mia Wasikowska

🌐🌐🌐½

Mia Wasikowska commands the title role for the 19th *Jane Eyre*, and like a distaff version of 007, she's a heroine who shakes and stirs. Luminous in *The Kids are All Right* and *Alice in Wonderland*, Wasikowska makes drab seem rad in director Cary Fukunaga's insightful rendering of Bronte's gothic love story, a new classic version of this oft-told tale.

She's superbly matched with Michael Fassbender, the charming chameleon of *Hunger* and *IngLOURious Basterds*, who as Jane's mysterious swain Edward Rochester is a figure at once menacing and vulnerable.

Rounding out the impeccable cast are Judi Dench as Rochester's loyal housekeeper Mrs. Fairfax, and Jamie Bell as the



starched clergyman St. John Rivers.

Fukunaga's vision, in concert with screenwriter Moira Buffini (Tamara Drewe), strips the Bronte novel to its dark roots about the physical and emotional travails of young orphan Jane.

The two main protagonists have been given small but significant per-

sonality makeovers: Jane is less pious and Rochester is less verbose than in the novel. Wasikowska and Fassbender do such a superb job in their roles, and match together so well, that no one need fear any disservice to Bronte's everlasting intention: a love story where the woman is the equal to the man.

● PETER HOWELL

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Duff and Comrie expecting



ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

- Former child star grows up
- Breaks the news on anniversary

Hilary Duff and husband Mike Comrie know how to celebrate an anniversary — by starting a family. The singer and actress took to her official website to announce that she's expecting her first child. "This weekend, Mike and I are celebrating our one year

anniversary," Duff posted. "We also want to share the exciting news that baby makes three! We are extremely happy and ready to start this new chapter of our lives. Thanks to everyone for the continued love and support throughout the years." ● METRO

Stork visits Alba again

Jessica Alba gave birth to her second daughter over the weekend, she announced on Facebook. Haven Garner Warren weighed in at 7 pounds.

"Big sister Honor couldn't be more excited about the new addition to our family," Alba wrote.

"Thank you for all of your support during my pregnancy. It means the world to me."

Alba previously told Ellen DeGeneres that she'd taken "hypnobirth classes" to prepare for baby No. 2.

"It's not like the clock in front of your face and you go out and you wake up and you got a baby," she joked. "Basically my husband takes me through sort of a meditation. It's not like a weird thing." ● METRO



► Jessica Alba



Celebrity tweets



"I really don't want Bar Rafaeli to get back together with Leonardo diCaprio again if this Blake Lively thing blows over."

@mindykaling

@Jonah Hill



"I'm in London any cool stuff I should do?"

@RitaWilson



"Working vs. tweeting? I forget to tweet when I work!"

@SteveMartinToGo



"Playing computer chess with myself, but finding it hard to climb on desk, straddle monitor and look down."

Quick Dish



► Johnny Depp

Remake of Lone Ranger a no-go

SORRY JOHNNY. Looks like Johnny Depp won't be riding off into the sunset in a big-screen remake of *The Lone Ranger*, as Disney reportedly pulled the plug on the film project after producers were unable to bring down the whopping \$250 million budget, according to Deadline. Depp, who was going to play Tonto, is reportedly still optimistic something can be worked out. ● METRO

Sorry, you did what this weekend?

► Tara Reid announces engagement, marriage, from Greece ► Shares info via Twitter within the span of a day

Tara Reid had a whirlwind weekend in Greece, first announcing via Twitter

that she and a man named Zack Kehayov were engaged.

But mere hours later, she updated her status again. "Just got married in Greece. I love being a wife." Reid was previously engaged to Internet entrepreneur Michael Axtmann, but called it off in April 2010. ● METRO

CFilms

► Tara Reid



ISTOCK PHOTOS



► Recent studies have shown that patients who walked shortened their hospital stay by an average of a day and a half.

Walk before you run

► Studies show that patients who are mobile during their hospital visits get released earlier



CELIA MILNE
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

When Granny's in hospital, she might recover more quickly if she walks the corridors.

Several studies worldwide have found that elderly patients who are mobile while in hospital get released earlier than

those who stay in bed.

"Walking really does pay off," says Efrat Shadmi, a researcher at Haifa University in Israel and co-author of a new study.

The study involved 485 patients over age 70 who were hospitalized for at least two conditions over two days or more. There were two groups: those who stayed in bed or

"Higher levels of mobility emerges as an important factor associated with shorter length of stay."

DR. ANNA ZISBERG

seated next to their bed, and those who walked around their room and the

hospital ward. The patients who walked shortened their hospital stay by an average of a day and a half.

"Higher levels of mobility emerges as an important factor associated with shorter length of stay," reported Shadmi and colleague Dr. Anna Zisberg in the Archives of Internal Medicine.

Mobility was beneficial for patients regardless of their functional status, age, cognitive ability, sex, and severity of illness.

Older patients might mistakenly believe they are supposed to stay in bed in order to get better.

This is not the case.

They can lose muscle power fast if they don't walk around.

Hospitals



Canadians are more likely to catch a bug while receiving care than people in almost any other affluent country. Here are rates of health care-associated infections, from the World Health Organization:

Canada: 11.6%
U.K.: 9%
Spain: 8.1%
U.S.: 4.5%
France: 4.4%

CELIA MILNE

Want to know if it's a boy or girl?

► Test gives answer with accuracy but raises concerns

Boy or girl? A simple blood test in mothers-to-be can answer that question with surprising accuracy at about seven weeks, a research analysis has found.

Though not widely offered by North American doctors, gender-detecting blood tests have been sold online to consumers for the past few years. Their promises of early and accu-

rate results prompted genetics researchers to take a closer look.

They analyzed 57 published studies of gender testing done in rigorous research or academic settings — though not necessarily the same methods or conditions used by direct-to-consumer firms.

The authors say the results suggest blood tests

like those studied could be a breakthrough for women at risk of having babies with certain diseases, who could avoid invasive procedures if they learned their fetus was a gender not affected by those illnesses.

But the study raises concerns about couples using such tests for gender selection and abortion.

Couples who buy tests



from marketers should be questioned about how they plan to use the re-

sults, the study authors said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Researchers find new ADHD genes, some also seen in autism, schizophrenia

Honey Mustard Catch



Expand your child's palate — and satisfy yours — with these delicious haddock sandwiches. They use whole-wheat buns and the fish is baked rather than fried.

Preparation:

1 Slice buns in half. Combine ingredients for mayo mixture and spread 15 ml (1 tbsp) on the bottom half of each bun. Place lettuce and haddock on top, then add remaining bun half. **THE CANADIAN PRESS/HELLMAN'S**

Ingredients:

Honey Mustard Catch

- 4 haddock fillets (each 165 g/6 oz), baked
- 4 whole-wheat buns
- 4 large leaves romaine lettuce
- 4 slices (each 30 g/1 oz) low-fat cheddar cheese

Honey Mustard Mayo

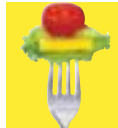
- 60 ml (4 tbsp) low-fat mayonnaise-type dressing
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) Dijon mustard or honey mustard
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) honey or agave syrup (if using Dijon mustard)

Lunch near lake proves lovely

► Grab a pal & celebrate those rare sunny summer days on the patio of the Inn on the Lake hotel ► Among standouts are Cobb Salad & Blueberry Shortcake

LUNCH RUSH

VALERIE MANSOUR
FOOD@METRONEWS.CA



Our rare sunny days must be celebrated. The patio at Inn on the Lake hotel in Fall River, well adorned with flowers, fits the bill.

I try the Cobb Salad (\$12.95) a beautiful arrangement of romaine lettuce, slices of hard-boiled egg, chunks of tomato and chicken, with strips of prosciutto elegantly arranged on top. The blue cheese dressing is tasty but light on the blue cheese. There's guacamole on the side.

My pal orders a build-your-own Pizza (\$14.25, 9-



► Cobb Salad (\$12.95).

inch with four toppings) with sundried tomatoes, pepperoni, feta and extra cheese. It's cheesy with a mild tomato sauce and a soft, thin crust.

Throughout lunch, a parade of stunning desserts goes by. We can't resist, so we leave some pizza for home and share Blueberry Shortcake (\$7.95). The

cake is light and flaky and the berries aren't too sweet. Yum.

Except for the noisy highway traffic, lunch near the lake is lovely.

POPQUIZ

What should you do with your tax return money?

A: Hurray! Time for a shopping road trip to the US!

B: Save some, invest some, pay off debts and then reward yourself!

FIND TIPS & TRICKS

in Lesley Scorgie's Fun and Frugal Column: *What to do with your tax refund.*

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Please mind the gap, kids

ON MONEY

ALISON GRIFFITHS
MONEY@METRONWS.CA



Gap years are a terrific experience if you build in money management skills.

I'm a huge fan of gap years for high school graduates. Many parents worry that kids who take a break before going to college or university will come to love the freedom too much to hit the books again.

I say, don't fret. Why? Two words — minimum wage. It takes only a few months for your young adult to grasp the idea that bottom of the barrel income is the norm for those with only a high school diploma.

It's more important than ever before for young

Gap-year goals

A good rule-of-thumb for managing gap-year earnings for not-so-young ones still living at home:

- ▶ 50% allotted to savings
- ▶ 25% for personal use
- ▶ 25% for food and rent
- ▶ Parents should save household expense cash in an education account for use later on.

adults to develop money management skills. The 2011 TD Canada Trust Student Finances survey discovered that 58 per cent of post-secondary students are anxious and stressed about their finances.

A gap year is a great way to build financial skills, while setting money aside to reduce reliance on student loans and lines of credit during post-secondary studies at the same time.

▶ With savvy planning, taking a gap year before starting college or university can be a terrific way to gain money smarts.



Another benefit is that the money saved might mean less need for a part-time job during the school year. Work is a great learning experience but it can also detract from academics and campus life.

This is what the bottom line looks like for a 35-hour week (one full-time or two part-time jobs) at or close to minimum wage for 50 weeks. I've used \$10 an hour, though the provincial rates vary from \$8.80 in Al-

berta to \$10.25 in Ontario. This amounts to \$8,750 in savings; \$4,375 for personal spending, and \$4,375 for food and rent.

With the youth unemployment rate ranging from nearly 15 per cent to over 20 per cent it can be difficult for young adults to find full-time work. Even so, help your gap year youngster develop a basic plan for whatever is earned and the savings will be appreciated down the road.

MAKE OTHERS FEEL GOOD

CHARLES THE BUTLER



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Dear Charles the Butler:
Where is the line between being well mannered, and simply faking it?
Just sayin'

Dear Just Sayin':
What a great question!

A well-mannered person always puts themselves in someone else's shoes first and never attempts to belittle others or make them feel badly. One of the absolute golden rules of etiquette is to make others feel good. Someone who is polite and well mannered will always do their best to make others around them feel comfortable, no matter how awkward the situation. Someone who is false or disingenuous doesn't worry about others' feelings or making others feel comfortable in social situations.

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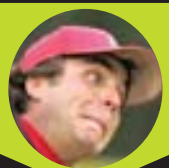


4 sports

Up and down

Alexis Crossley

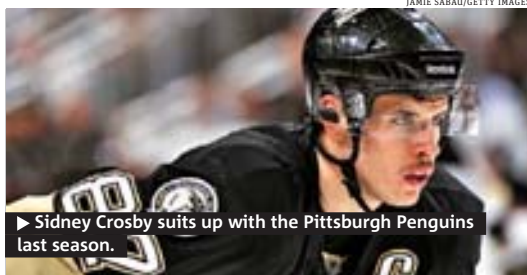
The Cole Harbour blueliner has been named to Hockey Canada's women's under-18 team that will compete in a three-game series against the U.S. in Rockland, Ont., next week. Crossley, who plays at Shattuck-St. Mary's prep school, will hit the ice with Canada on Aug. 18, 19 and 21.



Mark Haverstock

The Halifax Pelham Molson Canadians player-coach and veteran right-hander has been named Nova Scotia Senior Baseball League Cleve's player of the week. Haverstock led the second-place Canadians to a pair of weekend wins over the Sydney Sooners, including a complete-game five-hit shutout on Friday. **METRO**

Timeline open for Crosby return



► Sidney Crosby suits up with the Pittsburgh Penguins last season.

Sidney Crosby's summer vacation is almost over. Still, there's no telling when the Pittsburgh Penguins star will return to work.

General manager Ray Shero said yesterday that Crosby is still dealing with concussion-like symptoms and it's too soon to know if he will be available when

the Penguins open camp next month.

"There's no expectation from me that he won't be ready or he will be ready," Shero said.

Crosby hasn't played in a game since Jan. 5, missing the rest of the regular season and Pittsburgh's first-round playoff loss to Tampa Bay as he slowly recovered

from a concussion. He said in April he would be back for training camp.

The 24-year-old Crosby has spent the summer at home in the Halifax area working out on his own. Shero doesn't anticipate Crosby returning to Pittsburgh until a week before camp begins.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Questions going forward

► **New Mooseheads' head coach Dominique Ducharme has decisions to make up front** ► **Ready to evaluate players' strengths, weaknesses**



MATTHEW WUEST
@METRONEWS.CA

A quick glance at the Halifax Mooseheads' group of forwards and head coach Dominique Ducharme knows he has some tough decisions to make.

Which forwards make the team? Who plays with whom?

With the Mooseheads opening one of their more interesting training camps in a number of years today at Cole Harbour Place, these are among the biggest questions needing answers.

"The first thing I need to do is get to know the players more, know about their strengths and weaknesses, and then look at chemistry between certain players," said Ducharme, who was hired in early May. "Those things will fall into place as it goes along."

While the Mooseheads are feeling good about their roster from top to bottom, their stable of young forwards is widely seen as its biggest strength. The acquisition of first overall pick Nathan MacKinnon in a mid-July trade put an exclamation point on that perception.

The budding Cole Harbour star will join forces with 20-year-old Vancouver Canucks draftee Alexandre Grenier, top re-

turning scorers Martin Frk, Darcy Ashley and Brent Andrews, and the QMJHL's second overall picks the past two years, Jonathan Drouin and Luca Ciampini.

Other than Grenier, the entire group is 18 and younger.

"Age is not a factor," Ducharme said. "I don't care whether you're 16 or 20, it's the way you're playing, the way you're preparing, the way you're acting that will define what role you're playing."

Ducharme said he isn't sure whether he'll spread his more talented scorers across four lines or define specific checking and energy lines. But he wants all of his lines to attack when they have the puck and defend when they don't.

He said the biggest challenge at training camp for his all-new coaching staff is to end up with 23 players "pushing in the same direction," and he's eager to get that process started.

"We'll be ready," Ducharme said of his staff. "The players will get our best and we're expecting the best out of them, too."



.....
For complete training camp coverage from Cole Harbour Place, follow @metroqfiles on Twitter or visit

www.metronews.ca/qfiles.



► Darcy Ashley is one of the top returning scorers on the Mooseheads.

Herd Camp

Itinerary for week 1 of Halifax Mooseheads training camp:

► **Today at Cole Harbour Place**
Player registration, weigh-

ins and measurements, 3 p.m. Team barbecue, 6 p.m.

► **Tomorrow-Friday at Cole Harbour Place**
Practices, 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Intrasquad game, 7 p.m.

► **Saturday at Cole Harbour**

Place
Practice, 10 a.m.

Game at Halifax Forum
Cape Breton at Halifax, 4 p.m.

► **Game Sunday at Centre 200, Sydney**
Halifax at Cape Breton, 4 p.m.



► Team Canada's Phil Anderson, right, of Halifax blasts a shot in men's doubles tennis action yesterday as partner Christiaan Lee-Daigle looks on at the World University Games in Shenzhen, China.

Pair finds form quickly in China

► Anderson off to doubles quarter-finals at World University Games ► Eliminated in first round of singles



MATTHEW WUEST
@METRONWS.CA

Halifax tennis standout Phil Anderson was basking in the glow of an upset victory at the World University Games in Shenzhen, China, yesterday.

Anderson and his doubles partner Christiaan Lee-Daigle of Tecumseh, Ont., knocked off the second-seeded duo of Kittiphong Wachiramanowong and Weerapat Doakmaiklee from Thailand.

Despite being unseeded and never playing together

Colley chips in

► East Preston's Justine Colley of the Saint Mary's Huskies was third in Canadian scoring with eight points in a 73-46 loss to Russia in women's basketball play.

before, the 21-year-old Anderson and Lee-Daigle won 6-3, 4-6 and 8-6.

"This is easily the biggest win of both our careers in doubles," said Anderson, who has spent the past three years playing at the NCAA Division I level at the

University of New Mexico at Albuquerque.

"Both of these guys have ATP singles rankings. They're very good players." Wachiramanowong is ranked 496th in ATP singles, while Doakmaiklee checks in at No. 982.

"We played a huge game to stay alive," Anderson added. "Chris hit some amazing shots down the stretch. We're really clicking together so far."

The win moves the Canadian duo into Thursday's quarter-finals against David Etruch and Pablo Manuel Gimenez of Spain.

'Passionate' Canals hired as Rainmen coach

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO FILE

Expect about as much excitement from the sidelines as from on the court at Halifax Rainmen games this coming season.

The Rainmen's newest head coach, Josep (Pep) Claros Canals, is not only expected to help win games in the new National Basketball League of Canada, he's also expected to bring ample enthusiasm.

"He's not one of those sit-down coaches — he's up he's across the floor, he's jumping on top of the scorer's table," said Rainmen owner Andre Levingston, who hired Canals yesterday.

"The guy is just very passionate about the game."

The 42-year-old has spent the past three years as an assistant in Spain's top professional league. He has also been a head coach at Spain's lower levels and in



► Former coach Mike Evans

Portugal, Holland, Mexico and Venezuela.

While the Rainmen had job applications from several NBA assistants, they preferred Canals because of his familiarity with FIBA rules — which NBL Canada will use — and the fact he's more likely to stay a full season.

Levingston described him as a "workaholic."

"At the end of the day, I thought he was the best candidate," Levingston said.

● METRO

Halifax to tip-off season in London

The Halifax Rainmen will open the National Basketball League of Canada season on the road on Thursday, Nov. 3.

The Rainmen visit the London (Ont.) Lightning at John Labatt Centre before returning to the Metro Centre for their home opener on Saturday, Nov. 5, also against the Lightning.

The 36-game schedule splits 18 games at home and 18 on the road. Fourteen of 18 home games will be played on either a Friday, Saturday or Sunday, while the other four are Thursday-night affairs. The season concludes on March 4, 2012. ● METRO

NHL

Jets' Rypien found dead

Former Vancouver Canucks enforcer Rick Rypien was found dead by a family member yesterday inside his Coleman, Alta., home.

The news was confirmed by Angela Rypien, Rick Rypien's cousin, on her Twitter account.

Local RCMP officials say the death was sudden, but not suspicious.

Rypien, 27, signed a one-year contract with the Winnipeg Jets on June 2. He missed most of last season after taking a leave of absence in November for personal reasons.

That came after an October incident in which Rypien grabbed a fan at Minnesota's Xcel Energy Centre, trying to pull him into the tunnel before be-

ing restrained by teammates and coaches. He was suspended for six games.

Rypien returned to hockey in March, playing 11 games with the Manitoba Moose, the Canucks' AHL affiliate which gave him his professional hockey start in 2005.

Rypien played 119 NHL games over six seasons in Vancouver where he was a fan favourite. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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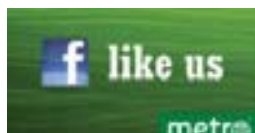
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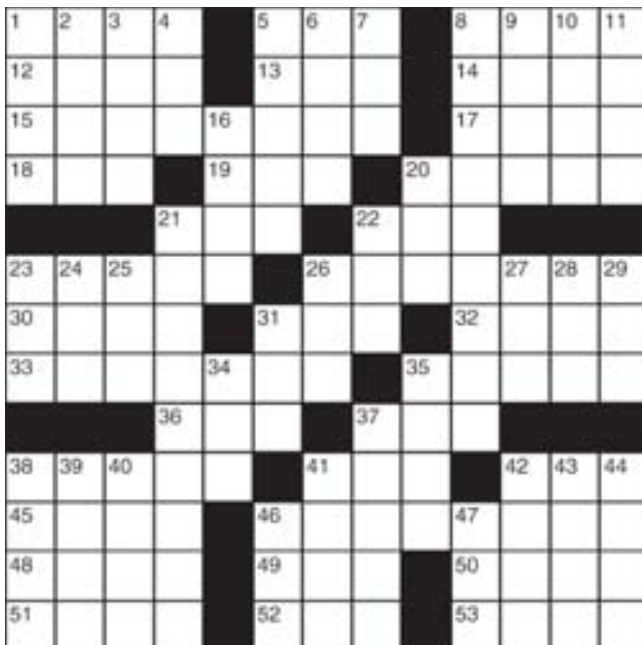
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Crossword

Across

- 1 Birthday party high-light
5 Witty one
8 Cotillion VIPs
12 Elliptical
13 Ram's mate
14 — podrida
15 Attendance check
17 King of the jungle
18 Away from WSW
19 Day divs.
20 Roulette bet
21 Remuneration
22 Japanese theater
23 Monastery head
26 Shoulder-borne rocket launcher
30 False god
31 Insect
32 "Once — a time..."
33 Recorded a score, with "up"
35 Ancient port on the Tiber
36 Can metal
37 Exist
38 Place
41 By way of
42 Tackle the slopes
45 Bobcat
46 Highway with booths, e.g.
48 Tom Joad, for one
49 Noshed
50 Ringlet
51 Marries
52 Founda-tion
53 Wartime partner
Down
1 Apple's centre
2 Shakespeare's river
3 Hardy cabbage
4 Right angle



- 5 Tired
6 Piercing tools
7 Solidify
8 Home for Barbie, maybe
9 Director Kazan
10 United nations
11 Fell prey to quicksand
16 Conversation
20 Dickens pseudo-nym
21 Electorate's levies
22 Gripe repeatedly
23 "Wipeout" network
24 "Humbug!"
25 Sheepish remark?
26 Pal
27 Choose (for)
28 Japanese pond fish
29 Literary collection
31 QB Roethlisberger
34 Child
35 Verbal
37 Wasn't well
38 Decelerate
39 Youngster
40 Author Bagnold
41 Mark a ballot
42 Music category
43 Malden or Marx

- 44 Without acting
46 Bill
47 Nipper's co.

► Yesterday's answer



Sudoku



How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ►



Send a KISS

You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, online at metronews.ca/kiss.

I love you more than anything in this world. You are the sexiest person I have ever met. You are my soul mate. Please come back so that we can enjoy happiness forever. **AER**

Big Irish, you are the sexiest man I have ever met, and are the best thing to ever happen to me. I love you and am lucky to be with you. I cherish every moment that we are together and I miss you so much while your working. **BOOBBOO**

Melanie, thank you for making my birthday such a special occasion. You are truly unique and I will forever cherish the thoughtfulness. When i looked in your eyes I felt a connection, even though we hadn't known each other for long. Kisses from your favourite Newfoundlander... **MARK**

Today's horoscope

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 You have a right to express your opinions, even if they offend people who disagree with your outlook on life.
♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 Anything you do on impulse today will most likely work out quite well, especially on the work front.
♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 A small sacrifice now could lead to big gains later on, so make the effort.
♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 When it comes to the real world, courage and confidence mean more than

bits of paper.
♌ Leo July 23-Aug. 23 What you get today may not be what you think you deserve but it is exactly what you need, so don't make a fuss.
♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 You are getting bogged down in trivia and need to stand back from what you are doing and see it in a wider context.
♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 Enjoy life's contrasts today.
♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 An opportunity will arise today that demands an instant and emphatic

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca response.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20

Stick to your high standards today no matter how hard certain people try to persuade you to sell out.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18

Whatever you choose to do, partners and loved ones will back you up 100 per cent.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. If you hesitate you could miss out on something spectacular.

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Caption contest



"Sideways world isn't as fun as I thought!"
MITCHELL



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